

THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC

S6911 State Highway 113 - P.O. Box 115

Merrimac, WI 53561

MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Present were Steve Peetz, Chair, Supervisor Terry Frosch, Interim-Supervisor Tim Healy, and Tim McCumber, Town Administrator & Clerk – Treasurer.

Chairman Peetz called the **TOWN BOARD MEETING** to order. McCumber confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed. The board considered approval of minutes of the town board meeting of September 4, 2013. Motion by Frosch, second by Healy. Motion passed. The board then considered the minutes of the Special town Board meeting of September 20, 2013. Peetz reviewed comments received from these minutes having been posted online. Frank Olah stated he never called the Grant residence. The minutes will not be changed as Grant made comments. The board made other corrections. Motion by Peetz to approve the minutes as amended, second by Frosch. Motion passed. Motion to approve was made by Frosch to approve, second by Healy. Motion passed. The board reviewed the financial reports and approval of bills. Motion by Frosch to approve, second by Healy. Motion passed. Under **PUBLIC COMMENT**, Jim Allen of the Sauk County Development Corporation. He presented invitations to the SCDC Leadership Forum on October 17th. All of the food served will be from Sauk County and prepared by UW-Baraboo students. Under **CORRESPONDENCE**, the town received an email from Frank Olah disputing facts presented by Richard Grant at the September 20, 2013 special town board meeting; an email from Gail Lamberty explaining that the president of the Sauk Prairie Restoration Alliance was ill at the last IBOMC meeting, so she sat in his place. Mary Carol Solum hand delivered a letter stating that during her call to Grant, she asked “Are you sick?” out of concern for his health. Under **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**, McCumber reported that he has served on the Governance Council for Merrimac Community Charter School (MCCS) since the planning began in 2003 and has chaired that committee from 2006 until this year. At that time, the school supported 49 students at a cost of over \$15,000 per student and was viewed as a low performing school. Since that time, the school now supports an average of 90 students through open enrollment and operates at around \$7,000 per student. When you factor in money the district receives for open enrollment, the cost drops down to about \$5,800 per student. The school teaches in a multi-age format and is a community based school with an emphasis on environmental learning due to the nature of our surroundings. The school rankings last year placed MCCS as the highest performing elementary school in the district and the new rankings for 2013 ranked MCCS as one of the highest performing schools in the State of Wisconsin. The school outranks all of the elementary schools in Sauk Prairie, Baraboo, Portage, and Lodi school districts, and a majority of the districts across the state. McCumber has served in the capacity of a community member of the board in his capacity of Town Administrator and is stepping down this month as both of his children have graduated out of the school and feels it is time for a fresh perspective on the school’s operation so it can continue to improve. There was no **OLD BUSINESS**. Under **NEW BUSINESS**, the board considered the appointment of Dawn Peetz to replace Eva Spear on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion by Peetz, second by Healy. Motion passed. The board then considered a preliminary 2014 Annual Town Budget to present at a public hearing. Motion by Peetz to schedule the public hearing and a Special Town meeting on November 6, 2013. Second by Frosch. Motion passed. Motion to adjourn by Frosch, second by Healy. Motion passed.

Town Officers: Steve Peetz, Chair, (608) 225-3110; Terry Frosch, Supervisor, 493-2891; Tim Healy, Interim Supervisor, 493-2687; Tim McCumber, Town Administrator and Clerk-Treasurer, 493-2588 (**please, no calls at residence**). Assessor: Steve Mahlik, Equity Appraisal, LLC, 608/826-0009. Tree down or other road emergency: 356-4895. Email address: townmerr@merr.com. Building permits are required in the Town of Merrimac. Contact Tim McCumber for permits and zoning regulations (tnadmin@merr.com). Town website: <http://www.tn.Merrimac.wi.gov>. Special Garbage Collection requests to Peterson Sanitation: 608/524-6603.

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